

PACIFIC SEABIRDS



A Publication of the Pacific Seabird Group

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PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP

Dedicated to the Study and Conservation of Pacific Seabirds
and Their Environment

The Pacific Seabird Group (PSG) was formed in 1972 due to the need for better communication among Pacific seabird researchers. PSG provides a forum for the research activities of its members, promotes the conservation of seabirds, and informs members and the public of issues relating to Pacific Ocean seabirds and their environment. PSG members include research scientists, conservation professionals, and members of the public from all parts of the Pacific Ocean. The group also welcomes seabird professionals and enthusiasts in other parts of the world. PSG holds annual meetings at which scientific papers and symposia are presented; abstracts for meetings are published on our web site. The group is active in promoting conservation of seabirds, include seabird/fisheries interactions, monitoring of seabird populations, seabird restoration following oil spills, establishment of seabird sanctuaries, and endangered species. Policy statements are issued on conservation issues of critical importance. PSG's journals are *Pacific Seabirds* (formerly the *PSG Bulletin*) and *Marine Ornithology*. Other publications include symposium volumes and technical reports; these are listed near the back of this issue. PSG is a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Ornithological Council, and the American Bird Conservancy. Annual dues for membership are \$30 (individual and family); \$24 (student, undergraduate and graduate); and \$900 (Life Membership, payable in five \$180 installments). Dues are payable to the Treasurer; see the PSG web site, or the Membership Order Form next to inside back cover.

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Pacific Seabirds

Pacific Seabirds publishes short peer-reviewed articles, reports of ongoing work, conservation news, and other items of importance to conservation of seabirds in the Pacific Ocean. The journal is published twice a year in spring and fall. Materials should be submitted to the Editor, except that conservation-related material should be submitted to the Associate Editor for Conservation. Information for contributors to *Pacific Seabirds* is published in each Fall issue. Back issues of the *Bulletin* or *Pacific Seabirds* are posted on the group's web site or may be ordered from the treasurer (see Membership/Order Form next to inside back cover for details). Submission deadlines are April 1 for the spring issue and October 1 for the fall issue; manuscripts may be submitted at any time.

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Marine Ornithology

Marine Ornithology presents peer-reviewed contributions concerning international seabird science and conservation. The journal is published two times a year. It is available on its web site or by subscription. The journal is supported by a partnership of global seabird societies, including the Pacific Seabird Group (PSG), African Seabird Group, Australasian Seabird Group, the Seabird Group (U.K.), Dutch Seabird Group, and Japan Seabird Group. For further information see www.marineornithology.org

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LIFETIME AND SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Pacific Seabird Group occasionally honors outstanding contributors to seabird science and conservation with a Lifetime Achievement or Special Achievement Award. At the 37th Annual Meeting in Long Beach, California, PSG presented the Lifetime Achievement Award to Daniel W. Anderson and the Special Achievement Award to Franklin Gress.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: DANIEL W. ANDERSON

Irene Anderson and Ken Briggs



Dan accepting his award

In On 20 February, 2010, the Pacific Seabird Group presented its Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Daniel W. Anderson at the annual meeting in Long Beach, California. This award recognizes Dan's scientific accomplishments, academic contributions, and his public service—to PSG in particular, and to conservation biology and marine science in general.

Dan Anderson's first experience with potential environmental contaminants came in the late 1940s, as a young boy in his hometown of Underwood, North Dakota, running through clouds of DDT sprayed for mosquitoes. This behavior was followed by four years at North Dakota State University, where Dan's initial interests in entomology and insect ecology were slightly dampened

by the fact that the study of insects often seemed to amount primarily to "learn which insecticide is best for which insect." But birds and their habitats remained his primary interest, especially the wetland birds out there in the middle of the prairie.

After college, Dan spent a 3-year stint as a "guided missile unit commander" and safety officer in the US Army at Fort Bliss, Texas. He then relocated to Wisconsin, where he entered the University of Wisconsin, Madison as a graduate student in Wildlife Ecology. Dan's major professor, Joseph J. Hickey, was Dan's most influential mentor and valued friend. Joe and Dan were among the first biologists to hypothesize a specific link between DDE and widespread eggshell thinning in birds, as well as the connections between thinning and population condition. They documented these relationships, and they also confirmed time-related trends in eggshell thinning, first reported in Europe by Derek Ratcliffe—that thinning was widespread in certain birds throughout North America. And, yes, seabirds were heavily involved in contamination by polychlorinated organic pollutants.

As Dan was completing his PhD in 1970, Joe Hickey arranged an "exit seminar" for him: a place on the podium at the 25th International Ornithological Congress in The Hague, The Netherlands, in front of several thousand ornithologists. Dan got very nervous under this pressure and tried to

postpone final submission of his PhD thesis until after this important event; but he was told by his professor, "Oh no you don't, you are going there as *Doctor Anderson*." And he did. He was awarded his MS and PhD degrees for the eggshell research results, along with some early work on pharmacodynamics in migratory Herring Gulls (*Larus argentatus*) and some basic biogeography involving eggs.

Dan's degree work was supported by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), under the direction and



Our hero ready to band birds, Isla San Lorenzo Norte, 1971

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD • Dan Anderson

guidance of Dr. Lucille Stickel. After leaving the University of Wisconsin, he took a position as a budding Research Biologist for USFWS. There he began his work under James O. Keith (another life-long mentor and friend) on pesticide contaminants in wildlife of California and Mexico. Their primary goal was to document contaminants in the then-endangered Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) and other wildlife of the West. Dan and numerous co-workers, including Frank Gress (our 2010 Special Achievement Award recipient) and other outstanding pollution ecologists such as Robert Risebrough, Lloyd Kiff, and Joseph Jehl documented the amazing decline of DDT that followed its prohibition in 1972, and the associated start of the Brown Pelican's recovery in the Southern California Bight. During that time, Anderson and his co-workers also published papers on the dynamics and effects of agricultural contaminants in migratory waterbirds (working with Risebrough, another now-close friend and important mentor).

In 1976, Anderson joined the faculty at the University of California Davis (UCD), where he has been ever since. He has continued his contaminant work, with long-term studies of seabird and waterbird populations, the effects of El Niño and human disturbance, habitat selection by marine birds, migration and movements of seabirds, and related work. Much of Dan's research has been in California, Baja California, and the Gulf of California. During Anderson's tenure at UCD, he mentored ten Master's students, eight PhD students, and one post-doc, among them Franklin Gress, Miguel Mora, and Eduardo Palacios. His last two graduate students are Kris Robison and Renée Weems, who are studying the ecology and management of Western and Clark's grebes (*Aechmophorus occidentalis* and *A. clarkii*). Dan's graduate students have been greatly enriched by his example and guidance.

Dan is a former Director of the Ecotoxicology Program in the UC Toxic Substances Research and



Dan and Irene Anderson at San Augustin, 1987

Teaching Program at UCD, and former chair of the Department of Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology. He taught an undergraduate course in Wildlife Ecotoxicology and a graduate seminar in Ecotoxicology, and served as Chairperson of the Ecotoxicology "area of emphasis" in the Ecology Graduate Group at UCD.

Dan was a co-founder of the Pacific Seabird group, and he twice served as its Chair (in 1978 and 1985).

Anderson retired from active teaching at the UCD in 2009. As a Professor Emeritus, he remains actively involved in the conservation and management of avian populations and their habitats throughout the Pacific Flyway. His current research involves studies of the effects, distribution, and dynamics of organic and inorganic contaminants in birds of California and Baja California coasts and wetlands, including the Klamath Basin, Clear Lake and Eagle Lake, the San Joaquin Valley, and the Rio Colorado Delta region. In recognition of his work, Dr. Anderson has been the recipient of the "Outstanding Contribution to Wildlife" award from the Western Section of the Wildlife Society; the "Rachel Carson Award" from the Society of Environmental

Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC), in 2004; and the "Ralph W. Schreiber Conservation Award" from the American Ornithologists' Union, in 2008.

All the foregoing is not sufficient to understand and appreciate Dan as his friends and colleagues do. To join that group, you have to be willing to put down your "credentials," turn your ball cap around backwards, and join a wild-eyed kid from North Dakota running through the wheat fields and corn rows, chasing after rabbits and bugs and lizards. This was the kid who grew up a thousand miles away from salt water, but who since has been blessed to study magnificent birds on the shores of the world's oceans. As you went into the field with Dan, he would open a door where a magic vessel would take you and other scientists to his world: a sea in the middle of a desert, populated by fish that flew through the air, and whales that jumped over them, and sometimes by people who jumped over whales! He would take you to a desert island surrounded by a salty the sea (San Pedro Martir), where if you were quiet enough you could walk with the ghosts of hundreds prisoners (guano miners) and wardens, in a century now gone —ghosts

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD • Dan Anderson



Dan with disgruntled White Pelican, Clearlake Reservoir, 1995.

who walked with you among thousands of nesting pelicans burbling and crooning among themselves, while a constant buzz hung in the background in the brilliant, still desert air—the sound of

millions of bees and hummingbirds sipping nectar from the flowering cardón cactus. If you were still enough inside, Dan would show you the Zen gardens he had found.

And, if you were lucky enough, Dan would also take you to meet his friends in the places tucked away from the glare of modernity: the baristas, the shopkeepers, the fishermen and the street vendors who just knew him in Mexico as “El Pelicano.” Friends with whom he would swap stories with, share photos of kids, and who would maybe give him a tip about a new bunch of breeding birds on some nearby beach. Many were friends who lived simple, unencumbered lives ... and lived in paradise.

Being a scion of the academic tradition that had its roots in the likes of Jocelyn Van Tyne (Ornithology, University of Michigan), and Joe Hickey (Wildlife Ecology, University

of Wisconsin), and Aldo Leopold (Ecology, Yale University) also meant that Dan has had an obligation—not just to study and to educate others, but also to advocate. Dan has done this all his professional life—in print, on broadcast media, and online. Through op-eds and talks in public and scientific forums, he has worked tirelessly to protect and enhance marine bird populations and the ecosystems upon which they depend. He has debated public policy—public actions, as well as well-considered inaction—to help leave natural systems and processes for all our kids and grandkids that are more healthy and sustainable than what we were handed decades ago. Dan Anderson continues this effort in his retirement years, always focused on making a difference.

In so doing, Dan Anderson continues to lead and to serve the goals of PSG, and he richly deserves this 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award.



Dan with his family at the banquet. Standing: sons-in-law Roberto Villanueva and Robert Martinez, M.D.; Dan; wife Irene. Seated: granddaughter Ava; daughter Helen; daughter Katie, with granddaughter Noemi.

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: FRANKLIN GRESS

Daniel W. Anderson

I first met Frank Gress in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at the University of California Berkeley (UCB) in 1968. Both of us were graduate students, Frank working under A. Starker Leopold at UCB and I under Joseph J. Hickey at the University of Wisconsin. Our professors were good friends and colleagues; we immediately became solid friends and colleagues likewise, and we remain so. At the time, and even today, we considered our work to be “as important as the moon landing” from conservation and scientific viewpoints. Yes, we were serious about our chosen work.

Later, after I had moved to the University of California, Davis (UCD) as a new PhD, I convinced Frank to complete his doctorate with me at UCD, as a member of the Ecology Graduate Group, in the Department of Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology. That he did: he finished his work in 1995. His dissertation was a monumental and complete summary and update of contamination patterns and effects on the subpopulation of the California Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis californicus*) in the Southern California Bight (SCB).

Frank was involved in the original elucidation of this contamination, and he has made unique contributions to conservation of the California Brown Pelican. Armed with the data in his dissertation, Frank provided key

testimony and advice in the government’s lawsuit against the chemical companies that had created the pollution problem off Southern California starting in the 1960s. As early as 1970, he produced the first-ever population survey and baseline data on SCB pelicans for the California Department of Fish and Game.

Gress has, of course, long since become an outstanding field ecologist and ecotoxicologist, contributing immensely to the science of seabirds and pollution ecology. He also has contributed importantly to conservation biology, management, and policy—especially regarding the California Brown Pelican, an icon of marine bird conservation in the United States that was recently removed from the endangered species list.

PSG is mainly giving its Special Achievement Award to Frank for his work on the SCB subpopulation of Brown Pelicans—40 years and still ongoing. This subpopulation was, at its worst, the most endangered in the entire range of the species, aside from

P. o. carolinensis in Louisiana, which was essentially extirpated by pollution. In 1972, the nesting colony of Brown Pelicans at Anacapa Island, the largest in the SCB, was down to around 200 nesting pairs, from a historical estimate of about 4000 to 5000—and likely even higher; nobody really knows for sure. Regardless, the entire subpopulation was only 5% or less of its historic numbers, mainly due to effects on reproduction from DDE (the metabolite of DDT). The pesticide was coming out of a sewer pipe in Los Angeles that drained the only DDT-manufacturing plant in the US.

Frank was one of the group of biologists in the late 1960s and early 1970s who first helped elucidate the now well-documented effects of oceanic pollution on a seabird. Our group included Robert W. Risebrough, James Keith, Joseph



Frank’s now-infamous 1971 trip to Anacapa Island, when he showed the colony to J. Gordon Edwards, outspoken proponent of DDT, and Edwards’s grad student Richard Main.



Frank observing a California seabird colony during his Master’s research, 1966-1973



Pollution politics were less fun than hiking in a cactus forest



On the way home from another day in the field

Jehl, Lloyd Kiff, Ralph Schreiber, Robert DeLong, George Hunt, myself, and others. In our graduate days, both Frank and I were heavily influenced and mentored by Risebrough, a nationally recognized ecotoxicologist (although the specialty wasn't called "ecotoxicology" then, but rather "pollution ecology"). Studies and documentation of the far-reaching effects of oceanic pollution on seabirds and other marine wildlife were just getting started. In 1971, Gress, along with Risebrough and Fred Sibley, also demonstrated eggshell thinning in Common Murres (*Uria aalge*) as far north as the Farallon Islands, off Central California. In another study, Frank looked at the effects of DDE on the reproductive success of Double-crested Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) in the SCB; this ended up as his MA thesis at UCB.

Here I'd like to say something of a general nature about the field of marine ecotoxicology and Frank's role in its early development. I start with a little story called "The witch-doctors of DDT meet the equalizers of eco-toxicology."

In the mid-1960s, powerful people like Professors Thomas Jukes and J. Gordon Edwards, along with others of

their ilk (I call them the "witch doctors") met the new "equalizers," pioneered by Rachel Carson (the popularizer) and Robert Rudd (the scientist). This was more than 50 years ago. It is not generally "nice" (as my grandmother used to tell me) to "say bad things" about dead people—but these two, and others in their gang of fools, have done just that on many occasions. They published numerous papers that were contemptuous of people who were raising the alarm against pollution, especially toward Rachel Carson, an "upstart" whose book *Silent Spring* challenged their dogmatic ways. So, in this instance, I have no compunction in trying to right the wrongs that were directed toward Frank and all the rest of us. Jukes and Edwards were the last "witch-doctors" of that bygone age; their beliefs have gone by the way, too (except for a stubborn few). The two pioneers, Carson and Rudd (assisted by many others) demonstrated that the old ideas and elixirs promoted by those myopic thinkers were no longer useful—if ever they were.

So now, back to Frank. In the first photograph (page 6), "innocent" Frank is kindly offering J. Gordon Edwards a tour to observe the phenomena that

Frank was researching: eggshell thinning, poor reproduction, and abnormal behavior in Brown Pelicans on Anacapa Island, at the time of DDE's greatest influence. This cordial encounter later led to repeated, unfair public criticism from a well-known professor toward a vulnerable graduate student. The attacks were similar to much of the criticism and personal attacks that have been thrown at Rachel Carson herself—even to this day, long after her death. In fact, Edwards went so far as to call the critical data on DDT "junk science." Rather, I call Edwards's own work in this area the same thing. At one time Frank was briefly up to his nose in the junk science issue, and I think (although Frank has never confirmed this) that the personal attacks almost caused him to abandon ecotoxicology and switch fields.

But Frank had a lot of friends around, because he was right. I remember one occasion when I was talking about DDE, eggshell thinning, and the decline of pelican populations. Edwards was in the audience with his favorite box of reprints, not knowing that I was acquainted with Gress. I was citing some of Frank's data on Brown Pelicans. Edwards told me, "DDT is



Dan Anderson and Frank tagging a pelican

completely safe for humans, look at the data. Don't you know that Gress doesn't know what he is talking about and is a fraud? There is no population effect on pelicans or any other birds, they are actually increasing." As he pulled several reprints out of his box and waved them in the air, I replied: "Professor, how many eggs have you laid lately? Let's look at data other than that on starlings."

Frank also has worked for many years, most often behind the scenes, with conservation agencies and organizations. Among his important activities are these:

1. Providing management recommendations and policy details concerning the Brown Pelican from 1969 to the present. He now offers over 40 years of expertise, with only a few breaks to expand into other bird species and habitats.

2. Co-authoring and taking the lead in preparation of the *California Brown Pelican Recovery Plan* of 1983, reviewing data, and providing specific policy recommendations and actions.

3. Conducting long-term monitoring of SCB pelicans (and other seabirds), as well as producing key ecological data—for many years with very limited funding. Frank has always provided information to management agencies well before publication.

4. Providing one of the longest-term demographic data sets (40 years) for a seabird on the Pacific Coast, without which we really wouldn't have been able to evaluate proposals to delist the subspecies (its removal from endangered-species status).

5. Acting behind the scenes as a key advisor to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game in their recent decisions to delist the California Brown Pelican.

6. Acting as a key advisor and giving testimony for the U.S. Department of Justice in their lawsuit against the Montrose Chemical Corporation of California over the chemical company's pollution of the SCB with DDT. Frank's help was crucial in winning

the case, which resulted in one of the largest environmental settlements on record. [Editor's note: Funds from this 2001 settlement are now supporting the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program, which includes benefits for SCB seabirds.]

7. Gress is not a "one-species actor." He also has advised agencies and provided data on other seabird issues in the SCB, including monitoring and management recommendations for three species of cormorants (*Phalacrocorax* spp.) and Xantus's Murrelets (*Synthliboramphus hypoleucus*). In addition to pollution work, he has advised agencies and organizations (and provided them with important data) regarding conservation problems for seabirds associated with liquid natural gas activities, nighttime squid fishing, and other commercial fishing activities there.

I should also briefly summarize Frank's other activities and achievements, for not all of his time has been spent in the SCB. Here is short list of Frank's academic and professional activities (which represents just some of his work in various species and areas):

1. Southern and Central California (1966-1973): Master's research at UCB (MA, 1973). Conducted contaminant studies on Brown Pelicans, Double-crested Cormorants (*P. auritus*), Western Gulls (*Larus occidentalis*), California Sea Lions (*Zalophus californianus*), and Common Murres. He did this work with R.W. Risebrough at UCB's Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Institute of Marine Sciences, and Bodega Marine Laboratory.

2. Costa Rica (1974-1975): designed contaminant studies and monitoring in the Golfo de Nicoya, with the Costa Rica Government and Universidad de Costa Rica.

3. Antarctica (1975-1976): participated in study of contaminant pathways in the Antarctic marine environment, with the National Science Foundation's Office of Polar Programs.

4. Davis, California (1976): founded the California Institute of Environmental

Studies (CIES), which he has directed from then until the present.

5. Arctic Alaska (1976-1977): Conducted surveys and microhabitat studies of shorebirds in coastal arctic Alaska to help determine the effects of offshore petroleum development and potential impacts of oil spills. This work was done with the Bureau of Land Management, the Environmental Assessment of the Alaskan Continental Shelf under the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, and CIES.

6. Coastal California, Salton Sea, and northwest Baja California (1978-2010): PhD research at UCD (PhD 1995) and ongoing work. Conducted ecological studies of California seabirds, emphasizing the Brown Pelican, 3 species of cormorant, and Xantus's Murrelet. His research included contaminant studies, effects of El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO), conservation, interactions with fisheries, disturbance studies, migration and movements, food habits and feeding ecology, climate change, and radiotelemetry (both conventional and satellite), mostly through CIES.

7. California freshwater lakes (2008-2010): Joined a UCD team in ecological and management studies of Western and Clark's Grebes (*Aechmophorus occidentalis* and *A. clarkii*), through CIES.



Frank searching for grebes at a freshwater lake in northern California, around 2010

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD • Frank Gress



Frank, his wife Jessica Brenner, and his son Jason Gress.

Frank Gress has made major contributions to our knowledge and management of marine birds, in California and elsewhere, through his long-term dedication, hard work, persistence in the face of obstacles, and quiet contribution of his expertise to agencies. He greatly deserves this Special Achievement Award from PSG.

SPECIAL INTERAGENCY AWARD TO FRANK GRESS

Harry Carter

Just after Frank Gress received PSG's Special Achievement Award in Long Beach on 20 February 2010, he was further honored with a special award from the Channel Islands National Park (CINP), and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. This award recognized Frank's long career of seabird research and conservation accomplishments in the national park and sanctuary, where he worked closely with staff over the years.

Kate Faulkner (CINP, Chief of Natural Resources) and Laurie Harvey (CINP and Montrose Seabird Restoration Biologist) were joined on the stage by a large group of past and present agency staff. They presented Frank with an arrowhead-shaped plaque, which bears a map of the islands and the words "Forty years of championing the recovery of the California Brown Pelican in the Channel Islands and Southern California Bight." The back of the plaque was signed by many agency personnel who have worked with Frank during his field trips to the islands since 1970.

This special recognition for Frank is underscored by the fact that it is the first

such award made by the park and sanctuary since they were created in 1980.



Frank Gress holding his award from Channel Islands National Park and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, accompanied by Kate Faulkner (left) and Laurie Harvey (center). (Photo by Kim Nelson.)

PSG NEWS

PSG ADOPTS UPDATED BYLAWS

In April 2010, the members of PSG voted to approve a thorough revision of our Bylaws. The document has now been updated to meet our current needs. Parts of the Bylaws had not been altered since they were written almost forty years ago, but PSG has changed with the times.

The revisions were written by a committee that included Greg Balogh (coordinator), Craig Harrison (principal author), Pat Baird, and Vivian Mendenhall. They were reviewed by the entire EXCO, which passed the motion in February 2010 to approve the amendments and submit them to a vote of the PSG membership.

The revisions fall into four categories:

1. Cosmetic changes, such as minor clarifications and correction of typographical errors.

2. Updates to recognize current issues, such as the addition of “ecology” to PSG’s educational purposes (Article I, Section 2).

3. Updates to reflect PSG’s current procedures, in cases where the Bylaws have not kept up:

- Latin America is specified as part of the Southern California region, which it really has been for years (Article III, Section 4-A). Hawai’i has also been added to this region (see last bullet in this article).
- Regional Representatives are elected only by residents of their respective regions (Article IV, Section 2).
- Annual Meetings include scientific presentations, meetings of EXCO and PSG committees, and a membership meeting (Article V, Section 2-A).
- The PSG Handbook, which gives guidelines for Local Committees and duties for EXCO members, is

now described in the Bylaws (Article X).

- The “Old World” region was renamed “Europe/Africa,” which is more specific and corresponds better with the new Asia region (see below).

4. New procedures:

- An Honorary Membership category was added (Article II, Section 7).
- Four EXCO members were made *ex officio* (non-voting) members: Coordinator of the Communications Committee, *Pacific Seabirds* editor, Website Coordinator, and Listserv Coordinator (Article III, Section 1). The four will attend EXCO meetings, keep up with PSG events, and debate its policies. However, as appointees of EXCO, they do not represent PSG members in the same way as people whom the members elect.
- A new Regional Representative for Asia and Oceania was created (Article III, Section 4-A). He or she will represent nations on Pacific islands and the Asian Far East (except for Russia, whose representation remains combined with that of Alaska). Asia and Oceania have until now been under the “Hawai’i and Pacific Rim” representative. That position was discontinued; Hawai’i has been reassigned to the Southern California region.

The complete bylaws are available on PSG’s website, www.pacificseabird-group.org

NEW PSG REGION FOR ASIA AND OCEANIA

A new PSG Region for Asia and Oceania was created under the 2010 revision of PSG’s Bylaws (see accompanying

news article). The region includes Asia and Oceania, including Japan, the Philippines, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (North Korea), Republic of Korea (South Korea), Republic of China (Taiwan), People’s Republic of China, other nations of southeast Asia, New Zealand, Australia, and the Pacific Island nations. Prior to 2010, these areas were included in the Hawai’i and Pacific Rim Region. Hawai’i has now been reassigned to the region for Southern California and Latin America.

Eastern Asia and Oceania have been important to PSG since the group was founded in 1972. Dr. Haruo Ogi of Japan was an active founding member of PSG (he is the recipient of PSG’s 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award). Members from Japan and other eastern nations have attended recent PSG meetings, and there is a longstanding Japan Seabird Conservation Committee. A number of PSG members have worked in Japan with colleagues there.

The new PSG region reflects our greater focus on seabird issues in Asia, and our increased cooperation with Asian colleagues as they work on those problems. PSG held a Special International Meeting in Taiwan in 2006, at which an international PSG working group was formed to help the highly endangered Chinese Crested Tern. In 2009, PSG’s Annual Meeting was held in Hakodate, Japan. We have also welcomed an increase in members from Asian nations, including Japan, the Republic of China, and the People’s Republic of China. PSG’s Small Grants program has enabled us to help biologists on remote Pacific islands with seabird conservation.

NEW PSG REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR ASIA AND OCEANIA (PLUS AN EXTRA REP FOR NOW)

PSG established a new Region for Asia and Oceania under the Bylaws amendments that were approved in April 2010. Yutaka Watanuki of Japan has graciously agreed to be appointed as the first Representative for the new region. His term will run until 2012, when the first elections will take place for the new region. EXCO and all of PSG welcome the direct input that Dr. Watanuki will provide from Asian biologists.

Hawai'i was formerly in the Hawai'i and Pacific Rim region. Hawai'i has been moved to the pre-existing region of Southern California. This region also includes Latin America (another area where PSG membership and interest are growing).

A new representative for Hawai'i and the Pacific Rim, Holly Freifeld, was elected just before the Bylaws were changed to eliminate this region. Rather than consign her to a term of only two months, EXCO decided to welcome Holly for her full term of two years, until February 2012. EXCO therefore has an extra member at present.

EXCO ELECTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 2010—AND CHANGES TO COME

PSG's regular fall elections for the 2010 Executive Council were held in late 2009. The results were:

OFFICERS

- **Chair-Elect:** Pat Jodice
- **Treasurer:** Ron LeValley

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES:

- **Alaska-Russia:** Adrian Gall
- **Northern California:** Hannah Nevins

- **Hawai'i and Pacific Rim:** tie between Linda Elliott and Holly Freifeld
- **Old World:** Linda Wilson
- **Student:** Laura McFarlane Tranquilla

These members started their terms of office at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting in Long Beach, California, in February 2010. At that time, Tom Good became Chair (he was Chair-elect during the meeting), and Greg Balogh became Past Chair (having been Chair during the meeting). Other members after February 2010 included the Vice-chair for Conservation, Craig Harrison; Secretary, Mark Hipfner; and Regional Representatives for Canada, Ken Morgan; Washington-Oregon, Don Lyons; Southern California, Dan Robinette; and Non-Pacific U.S., Julie Ellis.

The tie vote for the Regional Representative for Hawai'i and the Pacific Rim was resolved by a vote of EXCO, as provided in the Bylaws. Holly Freifeld was elected.

This election was normal for PSG, except for the tie. (The turnout was atrocious—91 out of 527 ballots returned—but that's as usual.)

However, the remainder of the year became complex for EXCO, for two reasons. First, a Bylaws revision (see accompanying articles) replaced the Regional Representative for Hawai'i-Pacific Rim with a new Regional Representative for Asia and Oceania. This meant that Holly seemed to be out of a job (on EXCO, that is) only two months after she was elected. However, EXCO decided that she would serve her full term if she wished, and she agreed.

The second complication was that PSG was to hold a second Annual Meeting in 2010, in conjunction with the World Seabird Conference in September. This meant that a new group of EXCO members would take office at the close of the September meeting. Another election was planned for mid-2010 to prepare for the September changeover

(see *Pacific Seabirds* 37[2], fall 2010).

Pat Baird continues to conduct PSG's elections, which includes finding (i.e., persuading) candidates, sending out ballots, and counting them. Pat has done this rather thankless job for years. Please help Pat and PSG: if you think you would like to serve as an officer or regional representative, do volunteer! (Note that students and retirees are fully eligible for any and all EXCO positions, not just people in professional positions.)

PSG LOON/GREBE COMMITTEE DISSOLVED

At the February 2010 meeting in Long Beach, the Executive Council voted to dissolve the Loon/Grebe Technical Committee. The committee was formed to assist in conservation of these species, and it was very active at first. However, it had been inactive for several years, during which time it did not submit annual reports to EXCO.

Committees do much of PSG's hands-on conservation work. Each is created by a vote of EXCO, usually on the recommendation of members who are already active in the new committee's field. Much of a committee's work is carried out independently, but public actions (such as letters to agencies) are reviewed by the Chair, who often signs them. Each committee must report to EXCO annually on its activities and progress.

Since the committees represent an important part of PSG, both internally and publicly, EXCO has a serious interest in their functioning. EXCO members talked with the most recent coordinator of the Loon/Grebe Committee, and they agreed mutually that the committee was not serving a purpose, at least for now. EXCO therefore voted to dissolve it.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

The Pacific Seabird Group's Executive Council (EXCO) meets at each Annual Meeting and during the summer by conference call. A meeting's Minutes are available after they are approved at the next EXCO meeting: a summary in *Pacific Seabirds*, and the full text on PSG's website (www.pacificseabirds.org). Following are the summaries for the midyear conference call of 2009 and the Annual Meeting of February 2010.

SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP

September 15, 2009, by Telephone Conference Call
Chair Greg Balogh

PSG ADMINISTRATION

Minutes of previous meetings

The minutes of the meeting in Hakodate, Japan (February 2009) were approved.

Chair of the Craig S. Harrison Small Grants Committee

Bob Day, who has been Coordinator of this committee since its inception, is resigning. Verena Gill agreed to step in and was appointed to the position.

Revision of the PSG Bylaws

A thorough amendment of the Bylaws is needed, since some parts date from PSG's earliest days and are now obsolete. A temporary Bylaws Committee was formed, consisting of Greg Balogh (chair), Craig Harrison, and Vivian Mendenhall. Pat Baird will be added if she's interested. The committee will prepare a draft of the new Bylaws document for EXCO's review by the end of 2009, so EXCO can vote at the February 2010 meeting whether to submit it to the members for approval.

PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Translation into Japanese for *Pacific Seabirds*

Yasuko Suzuki will translate articles about the PSG awards at the Hakodate meeting, so they can be published in both English and Japanese. She will do this gratis, and EXCO is grateful to get her expert translations at no cost.

Notice of electronic publication of *Pacific Seabirds*

Members who have opted to receive the journal electronically will receive confirmation of this from Ron LeValley when he confirms membership renewals. The members will be when each issue is posted on the PSG website.

Ron will continue to send the editor (Vivian Mendenhall) the mailing list for members who prefer to continue receiving a hard copy.

Assistant *Pacific Seabirds* editor for Regional Reports

This job rotates among Regional Representatives. Craig Strong volunteered to edit the regional reports for 2009.

MEETINGS

World Seabird Conference (September 2010)

Patrick O'Hara has become the Local Committee Chair; planning is on target and they are making continued progress with the budget and fundraising. Pat Jodice (Scientific Chair) and coworkers are close to completing the scientific program.

PSG's role in the WSC was discussed. PSG has provided the initial momentum for the meeting, along with David Irons and others who are now active in the International Organizing Committee. PSG will hold an Annual Meeting concurrent with WSC, but it will technically be a separate event. It appears that PSG will not give out awards during the WSC. [Editor's note: *PSG usually gives one or more awards during a meeting, but this is not required.*]

Long Beach Meeting (February 2010)

EXCO discussed arrangements for the meeting with its Local Organizing Committee (chair Jennifer Boyce), Awards Committee (Chair Doug Bertram), and Scientific Chair (Tom Good). The budget for the meeting was reviewed; it will be forwarded to the PSG Chair for approval.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP

Westin Hotel Long Beach, Long Beach, California, 17 February 2010

Chair Greg Balogh

Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the Executive Council (EXCO) conference call meeting on 15 September 2009 were approved unanimously.

PSG ADMINISTRATION

Chair (Greg Balogh)

The Chair's Report is printed separately in this issue.

Chair-elect (Tom Good)

General update on the current meeting (about 100 papers and 40 posters)

Past Chair (Doug Bertram)

Update on lifetime and special achievement awards to be awarded at the banquet and travel awards to students (10 awards) and Russian researchers (10 awards).

Treasurer (Ron LeValley)

Discussion centered on current membership issues and PSG's potential loss of money on the current (Long Beach) meeting.

- Membership is steady, and we are retaining new Japanese members
- We have two new lifetime memberships this year
- Members receive renewal reminders for two years before they are taken off the membership list
- We have joined a nonprofit coalition, making our Board insurance cheaper
- We did not meet our room reservation commitment for this year's meeting, so we will not make much of a profit
- A note for the future is to not over-commit on room reservations; there is a recommendation on this in the handbook

The full Treasurer's Report is published elsewhere in the issue.

Trustees of the Endowment Fund (Ron LeValley)

The investment fund is back to about \$149,000. \$120,000 of this needs to be kept in the fund, a commitment

decided upon by the trustees. Ken Briggs has agreed to fill Craig Harrison's trustee position. The Chair appointed Ken Briggs to the trustee board.

The Endowment Fund Report is published elsewhere in the issue.

Secretary (Mark Hipfner)

A draft PSG handbook is ready but has not been distributed widely. Greg Balogh will update appendices in the Handbook.

Bylaws Revision

A thorough revision of the PSG Bylaws has been prepared. EXCO approved the submission of the new Bylaws for a vote of the membership in the near future.

A few modifications to the draft Bylaws revision were considered. A motion to remove "US" from the phrase "US mail" in the Bylaws was passed unanimously. Another motion was presented to amend the section on the Student Representative to allow all members to vote for the student representative; the Bylaws currently restrict voting to Student Members. Two opposing concerns were discussed: (a) If only student members vote for their representative, does this make students think they are ineligible for other EXCO positions? (In fact, students are eligible to fill *any* EXCO position.) (b) Would voting by all members imply to students that senior scientists don't trust them to elect their own representative? The motion was withdrawn.

[*Editor's note:* The Bylaws revision was approved by the PSG membership in April 2010; see "PSG News" in this issue.]

Elections Committee (Pat Baird)

Discussion concerning low voter turnout (only 91 of 527 members voted). If elections were held during the annual meetings, would voter turnout be higher? EXCO members should work harder to

find members to run for positions; students especially need to be reminded that they can run for all positions.

A report on the recent EXCO election appears in this issue, in "PSG News."

Procedure for organizing a new committee

There was a question whether new PSG committees always apply to EXCO before becoming a recognized committee. Yes, normally that is how it happens—someone proposes a committee and presents reasons why it should be approved. EXCO then votes on creating the new committee and defines its duties.

Obtaining United Way/CFC nonprofit status

Discussion centered on whether to proceed with United Way application. General consensus that there is no reason not to, since there is no cost to us and it could help get donations for seabird conservation.

Loon/Grebe Technical Committee

The committee was dissolved (see "PSG News" in this issue)

2020 Technical Committee

A motion was passed to dissolve the 2020 Technical Committee. This was a strategic planning committee whose usefulness has dwindled.

MEETINGS

World Seabird Conference Committees

International Steering Committee (David Irons)—The committee continues its work organizing the WSC. So far, interest in the conference has been shown from 673 people from 58 different countries. There are many symposia, special paper sessions, and workshops being planned, along with paper and poster sessions. Fundraising continues; we have received over \$130,000 thus far, and another \$150,000 is needed.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

Scientific Committee (Dave Irons, Dan Roby, Lisa Balance, Bill Sydeman)—There are four primary symposia each day of the conference; nine special paper sessions, eight of which are complete with invited speakers; and two types of workshops. No book of the proceedings will be published, but conveners are encouraged to publish individual symposia and plenary talks.

Long Beach Meeting Local Committee (Jennifer Boyce)

There are about 250 registrants; many are late and one- or two-day registrants. We're still under our commitment for filling rooms at the hotel. However, any money we have left over from food and beverages will go towards the money we may lose on rooms.

It would be easier for future local committees to have a credit card to pay local vendors.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Conservation Committee Chair (Craig Harrison)

The committee continues to work on many conservation fronts and reminds all PSG members to bring important issues to the committee. They also request members to volunteer to review documents and draft PSG's letters on conservation issues.

[*Editor's note:* The usual Conservation News does not appear in this issue of *Pacific Seabirds*; an extended report will be in the next issue]

Craig S. Harrison Conservation Fund ("Small Grants Fund")

Bob Day has stepped down as Chair of this committee, and Verena Gill has taken over the position. Seven funding inquiries were received in 2009, and final proposals for two more are coming. Two proposals were funded in 2009; the total amount funded was \$5,500. A full report is published elsewhere in this issue.

American Bird Conservancy and Ornithological Council

PSG's representatives are Craig Harrison and Malcolm Coulter; report by Doug Forsell.

There is finally an OC website with helpful information about permits, etc.

In addition, ABC and OC are working with an NIH grant on a 3rd revision of rules for the use of birds in research.

Marbled Murrelet Technical Committee (Bill Ritchie)

Update: membership remains steady. We met twice last year, and a letter outlining the need for management plan/strategy is being written. There are concerns over many energy projects along the west coast that lack peer review; PSG might want to develop a list of recommendations and reviewers for such project proposals. The committee has developed a training plan for tree climbing, which will be sent to EXCO.

A full report is published elsewhere in this issue.

Kittlitz's Murrelet Committee (Michelle Kissling)

Update on activities: The committee's first meeting was held in Hakodate (February 2009). Four priorities were identified, and have all been acted upon. The committee met again in December to identify and prioritize information needs for managing Kittlitz's Murrelets. A complete status assessment is one priority and is currently awaiting funding. A full report is published elsewhere in this issue.

Chinese Crested Tern Working Group (Verena Gill)

Update: work continues on identifying population trends and threats and identifying new breeding areas. A full report is published elsewhere in this issue.

Seabird Monitoring Committee (Scott Hatch)

Update: the Pacific Seabird Monitoring Database (PSMD) is fully implemented on the web. The committee is working on planning and preparing for the World Seabird Conference, where a series of workshops are scheduled. A full report is published elsewhere in this issue.

Xantus's Murrelet Committee (Shaye Wolf, Harry Carter)

Update: funding has been secured to write a management and recovery plan for Xantus's Murrelets. The committee

continues to review past and current threats and to prioritize the needs of the species.

PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Appointment of Communications Committee Chair

The Communications Committee (formerly the Publications Committee) has been coordinated by Pat Jodice, but he is now running for Chair-elect. A motion was passed to appoint Verena Gill as Coordinator of this committee.

Pacific Seabirds Editor (Vivian Mendenhall)

Two volumes of *Pacific Seabirds* were published in 2009, both in Volume 36 (2008). Discussion centered on whether charging non-US members for a mailing fee would result in a loss of members. We are in a transition between hard copies and electronic copies. If electronic versions of *Pacific Seabirds* are available before hard copies arrive in the mail, people will likely be more open to just receiving an electronic copy. A full report is published elsewhere in this issue.

Marine Ornithology Report (Tony Gaston)

The Salish Sea symposium is being published this fall.

Communications Committee (Verena Gill)

There are 583 members on the Listserv, as of 29 December 2009. This exceeds the number of PSG members, as some people from developing countries have been allowed to sign up for free. A Twitter account (@pacificseabirds) is potentially reaching a different audience than the Listserv. So far, PSG has tweeted 51 times and has 53 followers (only 8 are PSG members). PSG is following 21 accounts (e.g., IUCN, BirdLife, Audubon, Albatross Task Force).

Updating the PSG Website

A short-term committee composed of Verena Gill (coordinator), Greg Balogh, Julie Ellis, and Don Lyons was formed to update the website.

PSG OFFICERS' REPORTS FOR 2009

CHAIR'S REPORT FOR 2009

Greg Balogh

One of the best things that the Pacific Seabird Group (PSG) can do for seabirds is to speak up. When PSG throws its collective expertise and scientific credibility behind conservation issues and makes our collective position known to decision makers, we can make a difference. Because we undertake this exercise with careful consideration, and with an eye towards our future scientific credibility, our organization's voice is usually granted a large amount of deference. But that doesn't mean we always get what we want. Like the Lorax, who speaks for the trees, we can, and must, speak for the seabirds. Unlike the Lorax, many of us have advanced degrees in the field of wildlife and environmental conservation, and that seems to make a difference to policy makers.

During the past year, PSG made its voice heard on a number of conservation fronts:

- We sent letters to Washington Senator Boxer and Representative Rahall encouraging their support of US accession to the ACAP Treaty (Agreement for the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels);
- We wrote to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in support of that state listing the Kittlitz's Murrelet as a State Endangered Species;
- The Honolulu Department of Planning was made aware of our group's strong support for the predator fencing that will soon be built at Kaena Point on the north end of Oahu, Hawaii;
- PSG urged the Ocean Policy Advisory Council to consider seabirds as they undertake marine conservation planning and evaluation of Oregon's Territorial Sea;
- The USFWS heard from PSG twice this year, once regarding our group's views on the Elliott State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan with respect to Marbled Murrelets, and once concerning the proposal to delist the Marbled Murrelet in Washington, Oregon, and California.

Also this year, we communicated with HRH the Prince of Wales, thanking him for his letter of support for our highly successful PSG meeting in Hakodate, Japan, and inviting him to deliver an opening address to the World Seabird Conference in Victoria, BC later this year.

The group also undertook more mundane tasks this year, as any organization must do. After about 10 years of talking about it, we took concrete steps towards revising the PSG bylaws to include changes that had accumulated in our procedures and needs during the intervening decade. But even as we tinkered with old bylaws, the group launched its Twitter site, allowing members who are so inclined to tweet each other with reckless abandon. The PSG listserv continues to fill a vital and important role of real-time communication among all members. Although the newly instigated practice of screening all postings was met with some measure of antipathy, we seem to have gotten beyond that. We are thankful to Verena Gill for sparing us the spam-aches that we would all be experiencing if she didn't gently police the site for us.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

PSG TREASURER'S REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

Ron LeValley

PSG's fiscal year runs from 1 October to 30 September. This report describes our assets and budget for Fiscal Year 2009, which ended on 30 September 2009. Figures for adjacent years are shown for comparison: membership numbers for early 2010, and account balances for the previous fiscal year (ended on 30 September 2008). The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2010 is also presented; it took effect on 1 October 2010.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership as of January 2009 and 2010 was:

	2009	2010
Life Members	76	76
Regular and Family	371	353
Student	141	113
Corresponding	7	7
Total	595	542

Membership has remained essentially steady. We continue to gather many new members at our annual meetings. We continue to lose members each year after the meeting that they attend!

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

PSG maintains a number of bank accounts

Regular Checking

The operating funds are kept in a regular checking account.

Balance as of:	September 30, 2008	\$79,944.18
	September 30, 2009	\$84,072.99

Investment Funds

Our Investment funds (Life Memberships and other specially designated monies) are kept in a mutual fund managed by Neuberger and Berman. Both our Endowment Fund and the Conservation Fund are primarily kept in this account.

Balance as of:	September 30, 2008	\$125,465.56
	September 30, 2009	\$116,824.63

PayPal Account

A PayPal account is used to accept membership payments, contributions and other monies by credit card.

Balance as of:	September 30, 2008	\$5,046.36
	September 30, 2009	\$97.49

Pacific Seabirds

Vivian Mendenhall maintains an account to facilitate the printing and mailing of *Pacific Seabirds*.

Balance as of:	September 30, 2008	\$244.99
	September 30, 2009	\$6,772.25

Total Assets

As of September 30, 2008:	\$210,701.09
As of September 15, 2009:	\$207,764.36

OFFICERS' REPORTS

PSG BALANCE SHEET AND ACCOUNTING FOR FY 2009, AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 2010

Ron LeValley, Treasurer

Accounting and Budget	Actual 2007- 2008	Proposed 2008- 2009	Actual 2008-2009	Notes	Proposed 2009- 2010
INCOME					
Conservation Fund	\$5,110.00		\$20,130.00	(1)	
Endowment Fund	\$2,070.00		\$660.00	(2)	
Life Membership	\$540.00		\$720.00		
Membership	\$9,272.36	\$10,400.00	\$14,793.00	(3)	\$12,000.00
Books Publications	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
Seabirds.net			\$3,000.00	(4)	
General Fund			\$2,999.99	(5)	
Meeting 2008	\$116,084.60		\$5,000.00		
Student Travel	\$3,220.00		\$1,472.20	(6)	
Meeting 2009			\$8,763.57	(7)	
Miscellaneous			\$150.00	(8)	
World Seabird Conference			\$1,200.00		
TOTAL INCOMR	\$136,296.96	\$10,425.00	\$58,888.76		\$12,000.00
EXPENSES					
Bank Charge	-\$219.25	-\$250.00	-\$1,032.99	(9)	-\$1,500.00
Conservation Fund	-\$9,045.00		-\$5,500.00		
Dues And Subscriptions	-\$1,000.00	-\$1,850.00	-\$1,361.00	(10)	-\$1,500.00
Insurance	-\$1,535.00	-\$1,500.00	-\$1,285.00	(11)	-\$1,400.00
Meeting 2007	-\$500.00				
Meeting 2008	-\$102,209.31				
Meeting 2009			-\$9,474.60	(6)	
2010 Meeting Long Beach			-\$2,912.71		
Misc	-\$1,009.00				-\$1,000.00
Office Supplies		-\$100.00			\$0.00
Postage	-\$148.01	-\$350.00	-\$126.24		-\$200.00
Professional Fees		-\$500.00			\$500.00
Publications	-\$8,065.00	-\$10,500.00	-\$16,000.00	(12)	-\$10,000.00
Student Travel	-\$2,300.00		-\$1,720.00		
State Taxes		-\$20.00			-\$20.00
Chair's Discretionary Funds		-\$1,000.00			-\$1,000.00
Lifetime Achievement Awards		-\$4,500.00			-\$4,500.00
Telephone		-\$50.00			\$0.00
Utilities	-\$166.80	-\$166.00		(13)	-\$175.00
World Seabird Conference	-\$877.76		-\$7,827.41		
TOTAL EXPENSES	-\$127,075.13	-\$20,786.00	-\$47,239.95		-\$20,795.00
OVERALL TOTAL ASSETS	\$9,221.83	-\$10,361.00	\$11,648.81		-\$8,795.00

OFFICERS' REPORTS

NOTES FOR TREASURER'S TABLE

1. See Conservation Fund Report. Extra money came primarily from matching funds effort.
2. Direct donations to the Endowment Fund. Life memberships also go into this fund.
3. Includes subscriptions from institutions. Next year I will break these out to Regular, Student, and Institutions
4. One-time donation arranged by Scott Hatch to get www.seabirds.net up and running.
5. Donation from Greg Balogh/U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for publications in Marine Ornithology
6. Income from Silent Auction and donations
7. Income from the Japan Meeting
8. I think this was a donation to me for beer. I don't remember
9. Mostly PayPal fees.
10. IUCN, Ornithological Council
11. Liability Insurance went up a lot, so we found a better provider and now we are a part of a larger non-profit group policy.
12. Marine Ornithology and Pacific Seabirds
13. We pay our Web site fees every other year.

REPORT OF THE ENDOWMENT FUND TRUSTEES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

Ron LeValley, Craig S. Harrison, and Malcolm Coulter, Trustees

FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE ENDOWMENT FUND

As of 30 September 2009, the Endowment Fund was valued at \$135,123.62. This was a 5% decrease since 30 September 2008, when it was \$142,387.55. (As of this report, on 9 February 2010, the Endowment Fund was up to about \$149,000.) In contrast to last year, our fund has more or less recovered from the nation's economic woes.

Most of the Endowment Fund is invested roughly equally in the following Neuberger and Berman funds: Focus, Guardian, and Partners.

No money was dispersed from the fund during Fiscal Year 2009.

EXPENDITURES FROM THE ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Fund may be spent only "to support production of PSG's publications," according to PSG's Bylaws (Article VI). "The actual expenditure of funds shall be recommended by the Communication Committee and decided by majority vote of the Executive Council." There is no obligation to spend money from the fund in a given year. If support is requested for a PSG publication, the Trustees may recommend that money from the Endowment Fund be supplemented with support from outside sources.

Endowment Fund, 9/30/2008		\$142,387.55
Income:	Life Memberships	\$720.00
	Other general contributions	\$660.00
	Unrealized Gains/losses (change in fund's value)	-\$8,643.93
Endowment Fund, 9/30/2009		\$135,123.62
Amount available to be allocated in 2010 (<i>method of calculating this is described below</i>)		\$8,107.42

HOW THE FUND'S TRUSTEES PROTECT ITS VALUE

PSG's Bylaws require the Endowment Fund's trustees "to protect the principal of the Endowment Fund over time." The trustees, in consultation with other knowledgeable individuals, established a method in 2004 for determining how much of the fund will be available for expenditure in each year. We especially are mindful of the fact that stock funds have fluctuated widely

OFFICERS' REPORTS

during recent years and will likely do so in the future. To be conservative in protecting the fund, the Trustees have developed a double method for estimating the amount we can spend each year: (A) *Only a certain percentage* of the fund may be spent, and (B) *Only if at least an "inflation-proofed" amount remains* in the fund each year. The inflation-proofed "benchmark" is recalculated each year, based on the government's Consumer Price Index.

A. Maximum percentage of the fund available for expenditure— For the start of Fiscal Year 2010, we are taking the value of the Endowment Fund on 30 September 2009 (the end of our previous fiscal year), and allowing a maximum of 6% of that amount to be available for publications.

We have selected 6% because we believe this is a sustainable percentage that can be used over a long period of time. We do not believe that PSG's long-term interests would be served by using a fluctuating percentage, based upon the well-meaning but arbitrary sentiments of the trustees concerning the state of the economy in each year. We intend to base our decision on the value of the fund at the *same date* each year, in order to discipline ourselves and future trustees, rather than using the fund's value on various dates according to the inherent volatility of the stock market.

B. Method of inflation-proofing the fund—As a further means of protecting its purchasing power, the trustees will not allow expenditures from the Endowment Fund that would allow its value to dip below \$100,000 in January 2004 dollars. (January 2004 is the approximate date when the fund's value first achieved \$100,000.) This "benchmark" value is adjusted each year, based on the U.S. Government's Consumer Price Index. *Example:* If the cost of living went up 3% between 2004 and 2005, then our fund's "benchmark" value would be \$103,000 instead of \$100,000. Therefore we would not allow the fund to fall below \$103,000 in that year. The present "benchmark" value of our \$100,000 (in 2004 dollars) is now \$116,613.93.

A calculator for adjusting the value of a fund to present-day dollars, using the federal government's Consumer Price Index, can be found at: http://www.qualityinfo.org/olmisj/DoQuery?itemid=00000027&u_price=100000&t_month=01&t_year=2004&b_month=09&b_year=2006&Calculate=Calculate.

C. Amount available for expenditure on PSG publications—Using the above methodology and the fund's value in September 2009, 6% of \$135,123.62 or \$8,107.42, would potentially be available for publications. Because this amount would not cause the Endowment Fund to dip below \$116,613.93 (the present value of \$100,000 in 2004 dollars), we could spend the entire amount.

CONSERVATION REPORT: EDITOR'S NOTE

The Conservation News that usually appears in *Pacific Seabirds* will not be in this issue. An extended conservation report will be published in the next issue (Volume 37, Number 2). The editor apologizes for this.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PSG's committees report each year to the Executive Council. These reports for 2009 were submitted in February 2010. A full list of PSG committees appears at the back of this issue.

CHINESE CRESTED TERN WORKING GROUP

Verena Gill

Verena Gill was invited by the Chinese Wildbird Federation (CWBF) to represent PSG at the 2009 International Symposium of Chinese Crested Tern. The meeting took place on 13-15 November 2009 on the Matsu Islands in Taiwan and was sponsored by the CWBF. The Matsu Islands are the main breeding grounds for Chinese Crested Terns (CCT) and are only 5 km from mainland. Local and national Taiwanese politicians also attended, as well as two representatives from BirdLife Asia. Tatsuo Yabe, a Japanese biologist who specializes in rodent eradication on seabird islands, also attended at the invitation of the CWBF. The objective of the meeting was to update everyone on results from the 2009 surveys, share information on CCT, and to discuss future research.

In 2009, a synchronized survey was undertaken by both the Chinese and Taiwanese in an effort to count all CCT and identify new breeding sites. The survey was funded by BirdLife and others on the Chinese coast, and by CWBF and the Forest Bureau of Taiwan on the Matsu Islands. Known breeding sites were surveyed simultaneously on 6 and 21 June, 5 and 19 July, and 12 and 23 August. The maximum total count was 22 individuals (17 adults and 5 chicks). In 2008, 21 individuals were counted (16 adults and 5 chicks).

The population trend has been stable since 2000, and it is still assumed the total world population is less than 50. However, many areas have yet to be searched for the presence of CCT; the area to cover is huge, and resources are limited on mainland China. All CCT

work in China is conducted by volunteers from Wildbird societies (Zhejiang Wildbird Society, Xiamen Wildbird Society, and Fujian Wildbird Society). The Zhejiang Wildbird Society discovered a new breeding site at Wusishan during the 2009 survey; however, it is likely an alternative breeding site for those adults that breed on Jiushan Island. There are plans to conduct another synchronized survey in 2010, but after that, funding will run out for the Chinese portion of the study. Other findings indicate that the CCT that breed on Matsu forage on the Fujian coast and regularly fly between the two countries. It is also suspected (using photographic evidence) that Greater Crested Terns and CCT have been hybridizing on the Chinese coast.

In the summer of 2010, the Chinese Wildbird Federation will begin a rat assessment on the Matsu Islands in collaboration with Dr. Yabe, with funding from the government. If rats are found to be present (which is currently suspected), and are a threat to CCT, a plan will be made for eradication. Other threats to the population include eggging of tern colonies by local Chinese fishermen. Eggs are collected to sell for novelty tourist food rather than as protein for the fishermen themselves. Eggs sell for about US\$5 each, so this practice has become economically important in the region. BirdLife has an outreach campaign directed at Chinese coastal fishing villages to educate the community on how detrimental this practice is. The development of Chinese coastal wetlands, where the CCT forage, is also a continual danger, as more and more of their foraging habitat is turned into industrial property. Although not the most immediate threat to CCT, this may well end up being the

most insurmountable.

Future research objectives include identifying the wintering grounds of the CCT (somewhere in southeast Asia), finding other breeding sites off the Chinese coast, banding the breeding population (no individuals are banded to date), behavioral ecology of CCT, a DNA database of the population, and a shared database on CCT. Ultimately a CCT refuge needs to be developed and maintained, including habitat for breeding and foraging in both China and Taiwan. However, the political hurdles associated with that idea may mean that this dream will be years in the making, if it is ever realized at all.

After the symposium, Verena met with officials of the Taiwan Forestry Bureau, Council of Agriculture, in Taipei: Deputy Director General Lee Tao-Sheng, and Conservation Division Director Li-Hao Kuan. She expressed the need for CCT conservation actions, and offered the support of PSG. PSG will continue to help our Taiwanese and Chinese colleagues in any way possible to save this imperiled seabird.

I would like to thank Victor Yu and Charles Chang, of the Chinese Wildbird Federation, for their invitation and hospitality.

KITTLITZ'S MURRELET TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Michelle Kissling, Coordinator

The Kittlitz's Murrelet Technical Committee (KMTC) was formed in 2008 to begin addressing concerns related to the status and conservation of this rare seabird, which is currently listed as a candidate under the US Endangered

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Species Act. The purpose of the KMTC is to act as a technical authority on the status, distribution, and life history of the Kittlitz's murrelet; identify and facilitate research; address conservation problems of the Kittlitz's murrelet; and act as a liaison between research and management.

We met in February 2009 in Hakodate, Japan, during the 2009 Pacific Seabird Group Annual Meeting. Due to the location, we only had seven people in the meeting. However, we accomplished much in terms of defining the structure, goals, and responsibilities of the KMTC, and we identified action items for 2009.

Accomplishments in 2009

(1) In March, we wrote a letter to the commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, to express our concern for the long-term survival of the Kittlitz's Murrelet. The State was preparing a response to a petition by the Center for Biological Diversity to list the bird under the State Endangered Species Act. We informed the State of the newly formed KMTC and offered our assistance in addressing conservation and information needs related to the species. We provided a list of seven high-priority information needs and invited the State to work with us in addressing them.

(2) In December 2009, the KMTC met for 2 days in Anchorage, Alaska to identify and prioritize information needs to manage Kittlitz's Murrelet populations effectively. We recruited a professional facilitator with experience in structured decision-making to lead the 38 participants from state and federal agencies, NGOs, universities, and private business. After a half day of short presentations on current research, we then developed issue and task statements and voted on priorities. We plan to prepare a formal report on the process, results, and recommendations for future prioritization efforts.

(3) We will be conducting a symposium, "Status and Trends of Kittlitz's Murrelets," at PSG's Long Beach meeting. There will be 11 presentations synthesizing historical and current in-

formation about the status and trends of Kittlitz's Murrelets by geographic area, population structure, and at-sea survey methods. The goal is to begin identifying and prioritizing conservation needs, including long-term population monitoring. We have raised \$6,000 to publish the symposium proceedings in *Marine Ornithology*, with Michelle Kissling and Bob Day as guest editors; Scott Hatch has agreed to provide editorial support when needed.

Issue updates

(1) On 10 March 2009, the Center for Biological Diversity petitioned the State of Alaska to list the Kittlitz's Murrelet under the Alaska Endangered Species Act. The State denied the petition on 7 April 2009, stating that population trend estimates were geographically variable and were questionable because of differences in survey methodology across years and study areas. They concluded that there was insufficient information to indicate the continued existence of the Kittlitz's Murrelet was threatened at this time.

(2) The KMTC was asked to assist Birdlife International in the review of the Red List status of Kittlitz's Murrelet, currently listed as "critically endangered."

(3) To facilitate communication with the 58 members of the KMTC, we formed a listserve and put information about our group on the PSG website.

MARBLED MURRELET TECHNICAL COMMITTEE Bill Ritchie, Coordinator

The role of the Marbled Murrelet Technical Committee (MMTC) is to act as a technical authority on the status, distribution, and life history of the species; identify and facilitate research; address conservation problems of the Marbled Murrelet; and act as a liaison between research and management.

Accomplishments in 2009

- The full committee met twice early 2009 in the year. There were 80 committee members in 2009, virtually unchanged from 2008.
- Committee members, government agency representatives, and researchers convened in Santa Cruz, California in March for a meeting organized by California Department of Fish and Game to address the dire situation of the central California population. This genetically unique population is declining severely and has extremely low reproductive rates. Immigration likely is not contributing to the gene pool; the population is probably functioning as a sink. The MMTC will assist resource managers in developing an immediate action plan, and will emphasize the need for increased funding to help this imperiled population.
- In June the MMTC wrote a letter outlining our concerns about potential impacts to Marbled Murrelets from the Radar Ridge wind energy project, whose proposed location would be close to the South Nemah Natural Resource Conservation Area and other conservation lands in southwest Washington. These conservation lands were designated in part to protect Marbled Murrelet nesting habitat, under plans of both the state Department of Natural Resources Habitat Conservation Plan and The Nature Conservancy Ellsworth Preserve. A bird-strike model was developed and reviewed by contractors for the project proponents. Although an independent peer review of the model is still pending, local support for the project is growing, especially in response to misleading media coverage of the issue.
- Tree climbing is occasionally used for Marbled Murrelet nesting assessments in suitable habitat. Several years ago MMTC wrote a letter offering general guidance on when and how tree climbing should be used to identify suitable murrelet

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nest trees. The Committee has developed a draft training plan for use in certifying climbers. The plan will be reviewed at our 2010 meeting and a training session will be held in autumn 2010.

- The Committee was asked by a non-governmental organization (NGO) to review a California Department of Forestry timber sale. The proposed sale includes a stand of old-growth redwoods located in north-central California. Although we do not usually review individual timber sales, we are evaluating this situation because of the potential for increased logging due to the recent economic downturn. It is vital for murrelet recovery to retain suitable habitat that is distributed throughout the species' range, given its current population trends.
- The MMTC Alaska Working Group met in Anchorage to identify and prioritize information needs for managing and conserving Marbled Murrelet populations, and to effectively coordinate research, reduce threats, and enhance outreach. Michelle Kissling and Kim Nelson coordinated meeting logistics. A professional facilitator with experience in structured decision-making led the two-day meeting attended by 21 participants from federal and state resource agencies, NGOs, universities, and private business. We plan to prepare a formal report on the process, results, and recommendations for future prioritization efforts.

Issue updates

- In January 2010, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) rejected a petition to delist the Marbled Murrelet in California, Oregon, and Washington. Tom Strickland, the Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, stated that "overwhelming evidence shows Marbled Murrelets are in deep trouble in Washington, Oregon and California, and

we cannot deny them the protection they need." The MMTC submitted comments earlier, on behalf of PSG, objecting to the delisting on the basis of scientific data.

- Population monitoring of Marbled Murrelets at sea continued as part of the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) Effectiveness Monitoring Program. For the 5-zone area combined, the overall population declined during 2000 to 2008. The estimated annual rate of decline for that period was 2.4 percent, which is equivalent to an average loss of about 488 birds per year (the standard error is ± 241). The estimated rate of decline from 2001 to 2008 was greater, averaging 4.3 percent, or 867 birds per year (standard error ± 129).
- Enhancement of the existing model used for the NWFP habitat-monitoring component is continuing. The scientific team decided to pursue resource selection function models as the preferred approach for modeling the amount and distribution of murrelet nesting habitat. Recent products include a report that summarizes the NWFP activities from 2000-2008. The report is available at www.reo.gov/monitoring.

Future MMTC Work Items

- The Inland Survey Protocol Working Group will prepare a letter cautioning that low activity levels at training sites might necessitate a late start to the 2010 survey training season. A similar letter has been issued since 2007. This year we expect the Prairie Creek site will be the only viable pre-season training site within the listed range.
- The MMTC has been invited to participate in a workshop in February 2010 to discuss differences in management and habitat protection strategies in Oregon versus those used in Washington and California. Options for addressing declining populations in Oregon will be discussed, including enhanced conservation and management practices and refined critical habitat designations.

SEABIRD MONITORING COMMITTEE

Scott A. Hatch, Coordinator

The Pacific Seabird Monitoring Database (PSMD) is fully implemented on the World Wide Web, with interfaces for contributors, users, and administrators. It can be accessed at <http://seabirds.usgs.gov>.

During the last 12 months, contributors have made significant use of the system to update and add seabird-monitoring records. The database currently contains more than 20,000 observations of seabird population parameters (numbers, breeding success, phenology, survival, etc.) in 2867 time series. A proposal entitled, "Seabirds as indicators: updating the Pacific Seabird Monitoring Database" is pending before the North Pacific Research Board, for possible funding (\$100,000) in 2010. If successful, that initiative will provide monetary support for data entry and data editing by 18 cooperating seabird investigators in five Pacific Rim countries. Meanwhile, schemas have been developed for two additional databases—a Seabird Colony Register, and a Seabird Trophic Studies Database—both of which are being implemented by the Migratory Birds program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Anchorage, Alaska.

A major focus of Seabird Monitoring Committee activity in 2010 will planning and preparation for the World Seabird Conference in Victoria, BC in September 2010. A series of workshops on global seabird databases is scheduled, including sessions on goals, status, and prospects for developing four global databases: World Seabird Colony Register, World Seabird Monitoring Database, World Pelagic Surveys Database, and World Seabird Tracking Database. The goal for the seabird-monitoring component is an expansion of the general approach exemplified in the PSMD to include the efforts of seabird researchers globally. The existing database and associated software require little or no modification to accommodate broad participation from around the world. The workshop

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series will include an introduction to the PSMD for conference participants who may as yet be unaware of its existence or features, and discussion of the prospects for adopting the general model of the PSMD on a global basis.

An important initial step in creating a global database will be a comprehensive inventory of all past and ongoing effort to monitor population parameters of the world's seabirds. Regional Coordinators, each with an area of geographic responsibility, have been recruited to work on the world inventory of seabird monitoring in advance of the WSC workshop. Results of the inventory will be presented in a series of brief reports during the workshop and collated to assist the creation of a world monitoring database.

CRAIG S. HARRISON **CONSERVATION FUND** Verena Gill, Coordinator

Bob Day has stepped down as Chair of this committee; Verena Gill took over the position in September 2009. The committee would like to thank Bob for all of his efforts in getting this program up and running.

We received seven e-mail inquiries for funding in 2009. We asked 4 to send in complete proposals; the other 3 did

not fit our criteria. Two proposals were fully funded, and we are awaiting the final proposal on the other 2.

Three proposals were funded in 2009, for a total of \$5500. (One project was applied for in 2008, but was funded in January 2009.) The awardees were:

1. Dr. Carlos B. Zavalaga, Peru. Travel expenses to cover deployment of data-loggers needed to study movements of birds at sea to help protect them. \$2000.

2. Gert de Jong, Netherlands. Purchase of equipment for Indonesian researchers who are being trained to census seabird colonies. \$2000.

3. Liliana Ayala, Peru. Funds to help generate conservation-oriented posters on seabirds. \$1500.

Verena plans to look for additional funding from BirdLife International and through an Amazon.com sales arrangement.

PACIFIC SEABIRDS Vivian Mendenhall, Editor

Two issues of *Pacific Seabirds* were published during Fiscal Year 2009.

1. February 2009: Volume 35(1), Spring 2008. 684 copies were mailed: 505 within the U.S. (cost \$225.93), and 179 to other countries (cost \$474.01), for a total cost of \$2,647.36.

2. April 2009: Volume 35(2), Fall 2008. 526 copies were mailed within the US (cost \$273.05), and to other countries (cost \$610.9), for a total cost of \$4,006.49.

Electronic publishing

PSG has been trying to save printing and mailing costs (and paper!) by getting most subscribers to read *Pacific Seabirds* on the Web. The amount PSG has saved will depend on how many non-US subscribers have opted to read *Pacific Seabirds* on the Web. It costs only about \$0.50 to mail a copy of this journal within the US; however, it costs about \$2.60 per copy to other countries, including Canada and Mexico—almost as much as the cost of printing. The difference is because we use a bulk-mailing permit within the US.

If non-US members shift to reading *Pacific Seabirds* on the web, they save money for PSG; they also benefit from getting the journal sooner, since it can take weeks to reach Europe or Asia.

However, any member may continue getting a hard copy in the mail, if preferred.

Translations into Japanese

Yasuko Suzuki did a heroic job of translating articles on the 2009 awardees into Japanese. Thanks also to Chair Greg Balogh for arranging for her to do the translations.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP

The Pacific Seabird Group publishes symposia and other works. **PSG Symposia** are occasionally held at Annual Meetings; those which have been published are listed below. **Technical Reports** prepared by PSG working groups also are listed. *To order one of these PSG publications, please see instructions after each item.*

Abstracts of papers and posters given at PSG meetings are published annually. Abstracts for meetings of 1974 through 1993 appeared in the PSG Bulletin (Volumes 2–20); for meetings of 1994 through 2003, in Pacific Seabirds (Volumes 21–30); and for meetings of 1997 and later, at www.pacificseabirdgroup.org

PSG publishes the journals *Pacific Seabirds* (www.pacificseabirdgroup.org) and *Marine Ornithology* (www.marineornithology.org). Current and past issues of both journals are available online or by subscription. Back issues may be obtained online; those of Pacific Seabirds also are available from the PSG Treasurer (order form on last page).

SYMPOsia

SHOREBIRDS IN MARINE ENVIRONMENTS. Frank A. Pitelka (Editor). Proceedings of an International Symposium of the Pacific Seabird Group, Asilomar, California, January 1977. Published June 1979 in Studies in Avian Biology, Number 2. *Available free of charge at* <http://elibrary.unm.edu/sora/Condor/cooper/sab.php>

TROPICAL SEABIRD BIOLOGY. Ralph W. Schreiber (Editor). Proceedings of an International Symposium of the Pacific Seabird Group, Honolulu, Hawaii, December 1982. Published February 1984 in Studies in Avian Biology, Number 8. *Available free of charge at* <http://elibrary.unm.edu/sora/Condor/cooper/sab.php>

MARINE BIRDS: THEIR FEEDING ECOLOGY AND COMMERCIAL FISHERIES RELATIONSHIPS. David N. Nettleship, Gerald A. Sanger, and Paul F. Springer (Editors). Proceedings of an International Symposium of the Pacific Seabird Group, Seattle, Washington, January 1982. Published 1984 as Canadian Wildlife Service, Special Publication. *Out of print; available free of charge at* www.pacificseabirdgroup.org

THE USE OF NATURAL VS. MAN-MODIFIED WETLANDS BY SHOREBIRDS AND WATERBIRDS. R. Michael Erwin, Malcolm C. Coulter, and Howard L. Cogswell (Editors). Proceedings of an International Symposium at the first joint meeting of the Colonial Waterbird Society and the Pacific Seabird Group, San Francisco, California, December 1985. Colonial Waterbirds 9(2), 1986. \$12.00. *Order from:* Ornithological Societies of North America, PO Box 1897, Lawrence, Kansas 66044; phone (800) 627-0629; no online orders.

ECOLOGY AND BEHAVIOR OF GULLS. Judith L. Hand, William E. Southern, and Kees Vermeer (Editors). Proceedings of an International Symposium of the Colonial Waterbird Society and the Pacific Seabird Group, San Francisco, California, December 1985. Published June 1987 in Studies in Avian Biology, Number 10. \$18.50. *Available free of charge at* <http://elibrary.unm.edu/sora/Condor/cooper/sab.php>

AUKS AT SEA. Spencer G. Sealy (Editor). Proceedings of an International Symposium of the Pacific Seabird Group, Pacific Grove, California, December 1987. Published December 1990 in Studies in Avian Biology, Number 14. *Available free of charge at* <http://elibrary.unm.edu/sora/Condor/cooper/sab.php>

STATUS AND CONSERVATION OF THE MARBLED MURRELET IN NORTH AMERICA. Harry C. Carter, and Michael L. Morrison (Editors). Proceedings of a Symposium of the Pacific Seabird Group, Pacific Grove, California, December 1987. Published October 1992 in Proceedings of the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, Volume 5, Number 1. \$20.00. *Order from PSG Treasurer* (order form on last page), *or available free of charge at* www.pacificseabirdgroup.org

THE STATUS, ECOLOGY, AND CONSERVATION OF MARINE BIRDS OF THE NORTH PACIFIC. Kees Vermeer, Kenneth T. Briggs, Ken H. Morgan, and Douglas Siegel-Causey (editors). Proceedings of a Symposium of the Pacific Seabird

PSG PUBLICATIONS

Group, Canadian Wildlife Service, and the British Columbia Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, Victoria, British Columbia, February 1990. Published 1993 as a Canadian Wildlife Service Special Publication, Catalog Number CW66-124-1993E. **Order free of charge from:** Publications Division, Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0H3, Canada.

BIOLOGY OF MARBLED MURRELETS—INLAND AND AT SEA. S. Kim Nelson and Spencer G. Sealy (Editors). Proceedings of a Symposium of the Pacific Seabird Group, Seattle, Washington, February 1993. Published 1995 in *Northwestern Naturalist*, Volume 76, Number 1. \$12.00. **Order from PSG Treasurer** (order form on last page), **or available free of charge at** www.pacificseabirdgroup.org

BEHAVIOUR AND ECOLOGY OF THE SEA DUCKS. Ian Goudie, Margaret R. Petersen and Gregory J. Robertson (editors). Proceedings of the Pacific Seabird Group Symposium, Victoria, British Columbia, 8-12 November 1995. A special publication compiled by the Canadian Wildlife Service for the Pacific Seabird Group. Published 1999 as Canadian Wildlife Service Occasional Paper number 100, catalog number CW69-1/100E. **Order free of charge from:** Publications Division, Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0H3, Canada, **or available free of charge at** www.pacificseabirdgroup.org

SEABIRD BYCATCH: TRENDS, ROADBLOCKS AND SOLUTIONS. Edward F. Melvin and Julia K. Parrish (editors). Proceedings of an International Symposium of the Pacific Seabird Group, Blaine, Washington, 26-27 February 1999. Published 2001 by University of Alaska Sea Grant, Fairbanks, Alaska. Publication no. AK-SG-01-01. \$40.00. **Order from publisher.**

BIOLOGY, STATUS, AND CONSERVATION OF JAPANESE SEABIRDS. Nariko Oka (editor). Proceedings of an International Symposium of the Japanese Seabird Group and Pacific Seabird Group, Lihue, Hawaii, February 2001. *Journal of the Yamashina Institute of Ornithology* 33(2); Symposium (5 papers), pp 57-147, other papers pp. 148-213. In English with Japanese abstracts. \$75.00. **Order from PSG Treasurer** (order form on last page).

OIL AND CALIFORNIA'S SEABIRDS. Harry R. Carter (convener) and Anthony J. Gaston (editor). Proceedings of a Symposium of the Pacific Seabird Group, Santa Barbara, California, February 2002. Published 2003 in *Marine Ornithology* 31(1). **Available free of charge at** www.marineornithology.org

THE BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION OF THE AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN. Daniel W. Anderson, D. Tommy King, and John Coulson (editors). Proceedings of a Symposium of the Pacific Seabird Group. *Waterbirds*, Volume 28. Special Publication 1, 2005. Published by the Waterbird Society. \$15.00. **Order from PSG Treasurer** (order form on last page).

BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION OF XANTUS'S MURRELET. Harry R. Carter, Spencer G. Sealy, Esther E. Burkett, and John F. Piatt (editors). Proceedings of a symposium of the Pacific Seabird Group, Portland, Oregon, January 2005. Published 2005 in *Marine Ornithology* 33(2):81-159. **Available free of charge at** www.marineornithology.org

Information on presenting symposia: Pacific Seabird Group Symposia or Paper Sessions may be arranged by any member who is interested in a particular topic. Before planning a special session, refer to Meetings/Symposia Guidelines at www.pacificseabirdgroup.org; also contact the Coordinator of the Publications Committee and the Scientific Chair for the meeting.

TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL SEABIRD RESTORATION WORKSHOP. Kenneth I. Warheit, Craig S. Harrison, and George J. Divoky (editors). Exxon Valdez Restoration Project Final Report, Restoration Project 95038. PSG Technical Publication Number 1. 1997. **Available free of charge at** www.pacificseabirdgroup.org

METHODS FOR SURVEYING MARBLED MURRELETS IN FORESTS: A REVISED PROTOCOL FOR LAND MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH. Pacific Seabird Group, Marbled Murrelet Technical Committee. PSG Technical Publication Number 2. 2003. **Available free of charge at** www.pacificseabirdgroup.org

PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP COMMITTEE COORDINATORS

Committees do much of PSG's business, as well as the conservation work for which PSG is respected. The committees welcome (and need) information concerning their issues; please contact the coordinators with input and updates, or if you wish to help.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

The Awards Committee consists of the Past Chair, Chair, and Chair-elect. Committee members for 2010 (February-September) are **Greg Balogh** (chair), **Doug Bertram**, and **Pat Jodice**; contact information is on inside back cover.

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